



**2015 - 2016
WYOMING WATERCRAFT
REGULATION
and
Important Boating Information**



**AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES
PROGRAM DECAL REQUIRED
REFER TO PAGE 10**

**RENEW YOUR WATERCRAFT
REGISTRATION ONLINE**

- ✓ Wear your life jacket at all times
- ✓ Boat safe and sober
- ✓ Complete boater education



**Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the
United States Coast Guard are
Partners in Watercraft Safety**

Department Website: <http://wgfd@wyo.gov>

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DISCLAIMER: The following sections are a condensed summary of applicable watercraft laws and other important information. This summary is in no way intended to alter the content or statutory intent of those laws. If you have any questions regarding the precise language, you can view a copy of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) Statutes (Title 23, 31 and 41) and Wyoming Game and Fish Commission (Commission) Regulations, available at the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices, the Department website, or consult the following websites: <http://soswy.state.wy.us> or <http://legisweb.state.wy.us>.

PART 1
REGISTERING YOUR WATERCRAFT

WHAT WATERCRAFT MUST BE REGISTERED

MOTORBOATS CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER REQUIRED.

All motorboats powered by propulsion machinery of any type and operated on the waters of this state shall be numbered (TO INCLUDE ELECTRIC TROLLING MOTORS). No person shall operate nor shall the owner permit the operation of any motorboat unless the motorboat is numbered in accordance with state law, applicable federal law or a federally approved numbering system of another state; the certificate of number issued for the motorboat is in full force and effect; and, the identifying number set forth in the certificate of number is displayed on each side of the bow of the motorboat.

EXEMPT MOTORBOATS.

A motorboat shall not be required to be numbered if it is:

- a. Already covered by a number in full force and effect, which has been issued pursuant to any federal law or a federally approved numbering system of another state. If the motorboat remains in this state in excess of ninety (90) consecutive days and is operated on the waters of this state at any time during this ninety (90) day period, the operator shall comply with the provisions for a certificate of number in the manner prescribed in this section;
- b. Presently numbered under the rules of the Department until the present registration expires;
- c. A motorboat whose owner is the United States, a state or a subdivision thereof, but such ownership must be visibly evident.

WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION FORM FOR CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER AND FEES

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS OR ANY WYOMING GAME AND FISH REGIONAL OFFICE CAN PROCESS RENEWAL, DUPLICATE, TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND NEW REGISTRATIONS.

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER;
ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE AND
ASSIGNMENT OF NUMBER; CONFORMITY
WITH FEDERAL NUMBERING SYSTEM;
EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL OF
CERTIFICATE; TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP;
DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE; MANUFACTURER
AND DEALER CERTIFICATES**

- The owner of each motorboat requiring numbering by this state shall apply for a certificate of number with the Department on forms approved by the Department. The application shall be signed by the owner and accompanied by the fee required. Upon receipt of the application in approved form, the Department shall issue to the applicant a certificate of number stating the number awarded to the motorboat and the name and address of the owner. The owner shall paint on or attach to each side of the bow of the motorboat the identification number in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Department in order that it may be completely visible. The number shall be maintained in legible condition. The certificate of number shall be available at all times for inspection on the motorboat for which issued, wherever the motorboat is operated. If any motorboat is rented for less than one (1) day, the owner or his designee may retain the certificate of number on shore if the certificate is readily available for inspection.
- The owner of any motorboat for which a current certificate of number has been issued pursuant to any federal law or a federally approved numbering system of another state shall apply for a certificate of number if the motorboat remains in this state in excess of ninety (90) consecutive days and is operated on the waters of this state at any time during this ninety (90) day period.
- In the event that an agency of the United States government shall have in force an overall system of identification numbering for motorboats within the United States, the numbering system employed pursuant to this Act by the Department shall be in conformity therewith.
- Each certificate of number issued under this Act expires on December 31 of the last year of valid registration under the certificate unless sooner terminated or discontinued under this Act.

- The purchaser of a motorboat may operate the motorboat for thirty (30) calendar days immediately following the date of purchase without a new certificate of number if upon demand by a person authorized to enforce this Act, the new owner can furnish notarized proof of ownership and the date the motorboat was acquired. Upon transfer of ownership of a motorboat, the current certificate of number may be transferred to the new owner upon application to the Department. Application by the new owner shall include the owner's name, address and the certificate of number of the motorboat, together with payment of the registration fee and presentation of proof of a certificate of title. Upon receipt of application and fee, the Department shall transfer the certificate of number issued for the motorboat to the new owner. Unless the application is made and fee paid within thirty (30) days, the motorboat is without certificate of number and no person shall operate the motorboat until a certificate is issued. No number other than the number awarded to a motorboat or granted reciprocity pursuant to the law shall be painted, attached or otherwise displayed on either side of the bow of such motorboat.
- The owner of any motorboat shall within fifteen (15) days notify the Department if such motorboat is destroyed or abandoned, or if his address no longer conforms to the address appearing on the certificate of number. In all such cases, the notice shall be accompanied by a surrender of the certificate of number. When the surrender of the certificate is by reason of the motorboat being destroyed or abandoned, the Department shall cancel the certificate and enter such fact in its records. If the surrender is by reason of a change of address on the part of the owner, the new address shall be endorsed on the certificate and the latter returned to the owner.
- A watercraft registration form can be obtained from Game and Fish license selling agents, Wyoming Game and Fish Department Regional offices or by contacting the Game and Fish Headquarters at 1-800-842-1934. The watercraft registration form may also be obtained on the Department website <http://wgfd.wyo.gov>.

REGISTRATION FEES FOR WATERCRAFT

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>FEE</u>
1-YEAR REGISTRATION.....	\$15.00*
3-YEAR REGISTRATION.....	\$40.00*

*Registration fees are nontransferable and nonrefundable **TO THE SAME OWNER OR TO A NEW OWNER.**

DUPLICATE REGISTRATION.....\$ 5.00

(Needed if the watercraft registration for current year has been lost, destroyed, mutilated or becomes illegible.) A properly completed watercraft registration form (**DUPLICATE** box checked) is required for a duplicate certificate of number.

MOTORIZED WATERCRAFT DEALER.....\$15.00

A person engaged in the manufacture or sale of motorboats may, upon application to the Department in the manner and on forms prescribed by rule and regulation, obtain certificates of number for use in the testing or demonstrating of these motorboats. The fee for each registration under this subsection shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00). The number assigned by certificates of number issued under this subsection shall be temporarily placed on the watercraft to be tested or demonstrated.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) DECAL FEES

Resident Motorized AIS Decal.....	\$10.00
Resident Non-Motorized AIS Decal.....	\$5.00
Nonresident Motorized AIS Decal.....	\$30.00
Nonresident Non-Motorized AIS Decal	\$15.00

AIS DECAL/REGISTRATION COMBO FEES

1 year	\$25.00
3 year	\$70.00

MEASURING YOUR WATERCRAFT

It is important that you list the exact length of your watercraft in feet AND inches. Length is the straight line distance from the bow to stern excluding the deck, bowsprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets and similar fittings or attachments.

Watercraft are divided into four (4) class lengths as follows:

CLASS A: Less than sixteen (16) feet in length.

CLASS B: Sixteen (16) feet or over and less than twenty six (26) feet in length.

CLASS C: Twenty six (26) feet or over and less than forty (40) feet in length.

CLASS D: Forty (40) feet or over.

PROOF OF OWNERSHIP FOR NEW REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

Before a watercraft can be registered in Wyoming, proof of ownership shall be provided. The following will be accepted as proof of ownership for registration:

- A copy of or the original certificate of title issued in the name of the applicant(s) with the correct Hull Identification Number (HIN). The correct HIN will need to be verified if any of the following situations exist:

The ownership transfers and the watercraft HIN appears to be incorrect or there is no HIN number associated with the watercraft, or;

The registration is not a renewal to the state of Wyoming and the owner cannot produce a current or the immediately preceding year's registration from another state.

- HIN inspections shall be conducted by Department law enforcement personnel or any Wyoming peace officer.

- A certificate of title from another state. A watercraft that has been titled in another state can be registered in Wyoming with a copy of the certificate of title from the other state. The certificate of title shall be in the same name(s) as the person(s) applying for the registration in Wyoming, as evidenced by the certificate of title.
- Proof of ownership for homemade watercraft shall consist of a PHOTOCOPY of a notarized affidavit by the builder indicating the date construction was completed and a properly executed certificate of title. Builders of homemade watercraft may receive hull numbering information from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department Headquarters in Cheyenne by telephoning 307-777-4686.

SEND A PHOTOCOPY OF THE PROOF OF OWNERSHIP DOCUMENTATION. THE PROOF OF OWNERSHIP DOCUMENTATION SHALL NOT BE RETURNED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO THE OWNER.

RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER/REGISTRATION

Watercraft can be registered for a one (1) year period or a three (3) year period. Normally, you will receive a notice by mail to renew your registration for another calendar year, verify the information and make any corrections where necessary (i.e. change in address, change in propulsion machinery of any type, etc.). Whether you are notified or not, you are responsible for renewing the registration for your watercraft. The certificate of number assigned to your watercraft remains the same if you renew it continuously. PLEASE BE ADVISED, if you allow five (5) or more years to pass without renewing your certificate of number registration, the number assigned to your watercraft shall be dropped from the Department's files and shall be reissued to another party.

PLACEMENT OF NUMBER AND REGISTRATION DECAL ON WATERCRAFT

Refer to Chapter 22, Section 4 (a)(b)(c).

The registration number issued to your watercraft appears on your registration certificate. Sign your registration and keep it on board your watercraft when you use it. The Wyoming Game and Fish

Department only assigns the watercraft number and the applicant is responsible for purchasing and attaching the number to the watercraft. The letters and numerals must be a minimum of three (3) inches high, of a block character, and contrast with the background. They can be painted on or attached to the watercraft. They shall read from left to right and shall always be legible.

Upon receipt of your new watercraft registration, if the number assigned is different than the number presently on the watercraft, you will have to remove the old watercraft number and replace the number with the newly assigned Wyoming watercraft number.

When you place your number on your watercraft, leave a space or provide a hyphen between the WY and the assigned number. Leave another space or hyphen between the number and the letters that follow.

Decals indicating year of registration expiration shall be displayed on each side of the watercraft behind and directly in line with the number of the watercraft.

The year on the decal will indicate the year of expiration. For a three (3) year registration processed in 2016, the decal will have "18."

Only the proper decal shall be visible. Either remove the incorrect decal or place the proper decal directly over the expired decal displayed on the watercraft.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM DECAL

All owners or operators of motorized watercraft registered outside of Wyoming, any owners or operators of Wyoming registered watercraft that have not paid the aquatic invasive species program fee as part of their watercraft registration fee and all owners or operators of non-motorized watercraft shall purchase and display an Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal valid for the current calendar year on their watercraft prior to contacting or entering any water of the state. All non-motorized inflatable watercraft ten (10) feet in length or less are exempt from this decal provision.

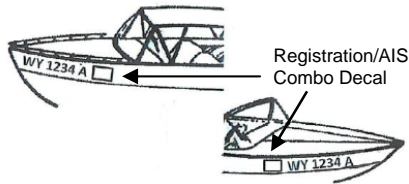
Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decals shall be sold through the Electronic Licensing System (ELS), designated license selling agents and authorized personnel. The price of the decal shall be ten dollars (\$10) for motorized watercraft registered in Wyoming and thirty dollars (\$30) for motorized watercraft

registered outside of Wyoming. The price of the decal shall be five dollars (\$5) for non-motorized watercraft owned by a Wyoming resident and fifteen dollars (\$15) for non-motorized watercraft owned by a nonresident.

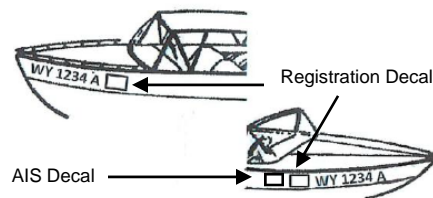
PLACEMENT OF AIS DECAL ON WATERCRAFT

Owners and operators of motorized watercraft required to purchase an Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal shall display the decal on the starboard (right) side of the bow six (6) inches left of and directly in line with the watercraft registration decal. Non-motorized watercraft owners or operators shall display the decal on the bow in such a manner that the decal shall be visible when the watercraft is underway. Only the Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal which is currently valid shall be displayed.

If you purchased your AIS decal and your watercraft registration at the same time, you will only have one (1) decal on both sides of the watercraft as illustrated below for the combo decal.



If you purchased the AIS decal and your watercraft registration at different time periods, you will have a watercraft registration decal on both sides of your watercraft and one (1) AIS decal on the starboard side as illustrated below for separate decals.

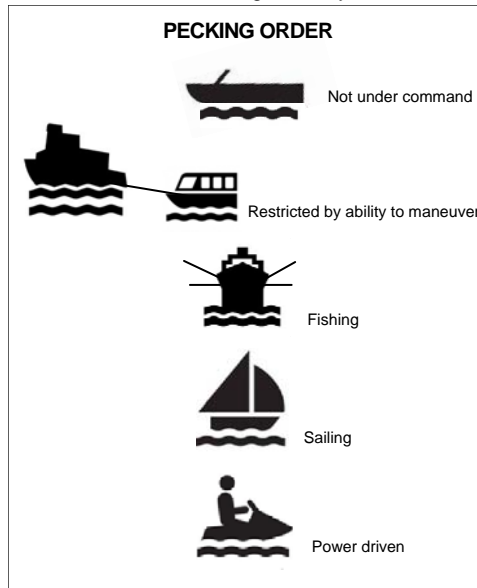


PART 2

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

RULES OF THE NAUTICAL ROAD

The rules of the road are an internationally accepted standard to which all mariners are to comply when operating any vessel upon the water. Basically, the rules require that every operator conduct his vessel in a prudent manner, at a safe speed, constantly maintaining a proper lookout by all means available to him. It is every boat operator's responsibility to avoid a collision no matter who has the "right of way".



RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN VESSELS:

- A **power-driven vessel** underway shall keep out of the way of a vessel not under command (unable to maneuver), a vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver, a vessel engaged in fishing* or a sailing vessel.
- A **sailing vessel** underway shall keep out of the way of a vessel not under command, a vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver or a vessel engaged in fishing.*
- A **vessel engaged in fishing*** when underway shall, so far as possible, keep out of the way of a vessel not under command or a vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver.

* A vessel engaged in fishing does not include vessels fishing with trolling lines or other apparatus that does not restrict maneuverability.

All vessels approaching each other at such angles or in directions so as to involve the risk of collision shall exchange the above signals and direct themselves in the following manner:

Crossing. When two vessels are approaching at perpendicular or oblique angles, the vessel that has the other on her starboard side shall keep out of the way of the other vessel. The rules allow either vessel to initiate the one blast signal in this situation, which should then be answered by one blast from the other vessel.

Meeting head on. When two vessels are approaching on reciprocal courses in a head on or nearly so situation, both vessels should exchange a one blast signal and pass with safe room on each other's port side.

The overtaking situation. When one vessel is overtaking another vessel from any direction two or more points abaft the other vessel's beam, that vessel is an overtaking vessel and thus is required to keep clear of the other vessel. Any person operating a vessel shall not follow another vessel more closely than is reasonable and prudent and shall have regard for prevailing circumstances and conditions so as to not create a risk of collision. The overtaking vessel should indicate the intended side on which it desires to pass and wait until the overtaken vessel signals a similar signal before passing.

ACCIDENTS OR COLLISIONS; DUTY TO RENDER AID; REPORTABLE ACCIDENTS; OPERATORS REQUIRED TO REPORT; ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION; SEIZURE OF WATERCRAFT

UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES MUST I REPORT A BOATING ACCIDENT?

- When a collision, accident or other casualty involving watercraft results in death or injury to a person requiring medical treatment beyond first aid at the scene.
- The disappearance of any person from the watercraft under circumstances that indicate the possibility of death (falling overboard, jumping from watercraft).
- When damage to watercraft is in excess of \$500.00.

WHEN AND TO WHOM DO I REPORT THE ACCIDENT?

- Report accident immediately to any Wyoming law enforcement agency or any Wyoming peace officer.
- Within ten (10) days after the date of the accident, the watercraft operator shall file with the Department a full description of the accident, collision or other casualty.

The operator of a watercraft involved in a collision, accident or other casualty, so far as he can do so without serious danger to his own watercraft, crew, passengers and guests, shall render to other persons affected by the collision, accident or other casualty such assistance as may be practicable and as may be necessary in order to save them from or minimize any danger caused by the collision, accident or other casualty. The operator shall give his/her name, address and identification of his/her watercraft to any person injured and to the owner of any property damaged in the collision, accident or other casualty.

If a collision, accident or other casualty involving a watercraft results in death or injury to a person requiring medical treatment beyond first aid, the disappearance of any person from the watercraft under circumstances that indicate the possibility of death or injury, or damage to property in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), the watercraft operator shall immediately provide notice of the accident to any Wyoming law enforcement agency or peace officer of this state. For purposes of this section, accidents include capsizing, flooding, fire, explosion, disappearance of the watercraft other than by theft and all collision accidents involving other watercraft or fixed or floating objects.

The operator of any watercraft involved in a reportable watercraft accident as defined shall immediately provide notice of the accident to any Wyoming law enforcement agency or peace officer. If a watercraft operator is not able to provide notice, another adult person on the watercraft at the time of the accident may provide the required notice. Notice under this subsection shall, to the extent reasonably known, contain the following information:

(i) For each watercraft involved in the accident, the identifying number assigned by the certificate of number issued to the watercraft;

(ii) The location, time and date of the accident;

(iii) The name, address and age of the operator of each watercraft involved in the accident;

(iv) If not operating the watercraft at the time of the accident, the name and address of the watercraft owner;

(v) The name and address of any person injured, killed or missing as a result of the accident;

(vi) The nature and extent of each injury resulting from the accident;

(vii) A description of any property damage resulting from the accident; and,

(viii) The name and address of any passengers on the watercraft at the time of the accident.

In addition, the watercraft operator shall within ten (10) days after the date of the accident, file with the Department a full description of the collision, accident or other casualty. The report required shall be submitted on a boating accident report form approved by the Department and obtained from the investigating law enforcement agency or peace officer. The Department shall provide forms required to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and peace officers. The report shall not be referred to in any way and shall not be used as evidence in any judicial proceeding.

If the cause of any reportable watercraft accident cannot be immediately determined during the investigation of the accident by the appropriate peace officer or law enforcement agency and the watercraft is necessary for investigative purposes, the officer or agency may temporarily seize and hold any watercraft involved in the accident.

ACCIDENT REPORT INFORMATION TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Upon the request of an authorized official or agency of the United States, any information compiled or otherwise available to the Department pursuant to W.S. §41-13-105 shall be transmitted to the requesting official or agency.

AGE OF OPERATOR OF MOTORBOAT

No person shall operate or be in actual physical control of a motorboat required to be numbered on the waters in this state unless he/she is at least sixteen (16) years of age or is accompanied by an adult. No person shall knowingly permit the operation of a numbered motorboat on the waters of this state by a person under sixteen (16) years of age who is not accompanied by an adult. (This includes personal watercraft, i.e., jet skis.) "Accompanied by an adult" means no person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall operate or be in actual physical control of a motorized watercraft on the waters of the state unless an adult is also physically in or aboard the motorized watercraft and is responsible for the operation of the watercraft. An adult means a person eighteen (18) years of age or older.

**WYOMING DOES NOT RECOGNIZE
OTHER STATES' LAWS REGARDING
MINIMUM AGE OF OPERATOR.**

BUOYS AND MARKERS; OPERATION IN MARKED RESTRICTED AREAS PROHIBITED; EXCEPTIONS

The Commission shall regulate the type and use of watercraft on the waters of the state and the placement of buoys, markers or regulatory signs necessary to provide for the safety and welfare of the public. Watercraft operators shall operate watercraft in accordance with restrictions and regulations specified on the buoys, markers or signs. No waterway marker regulating watercraft use shall be placed on, in or near the waters of the state unless approval has been obtained in accordance with Commission regulations.

No person shall operate a watercraft on any water or within a water area that has been designated in accordance with Commission regulation as a restricted area. This section does not apply in the case of an emergency, or to patrol or rescue craft.

No person shall tie off, moor or attach any watercraft to any regulatory buoy or waterway marking device.

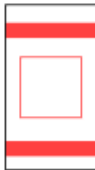
UNIFORM STATE WATERWAY MARKING SYSTEM

Also refer to Chapter 22, Section 7.



CAUTION!

Controlled Area as indicated in circle e.g. speed limit, no fishing, no anchoring, ski only, slow/no wake, no ski, no prop boats.



INFORMATION.

Tells directions, distances, places, food, repairs, supplies, other non-regulatory messages.



BOATS KEEP OUT!

Nature of danger may be placed outside crossed diamond - e.g. waterfalls, swim areas or rapids.



DANGER!

Nature of danger may be indicated inside the diamond - e.g. rocks, reef, dams, construction or snags.

MOORING BUOY



SWIMMING AREA MARKER



DIVING FLAGS

ALPHA FLAG



DIVING FLAG



Diver down flags must be at least twelve (12) inches by twelve (12) inches and displayed no less than three (3) feet above the water.

No person shall operate or permit the operation of any motorized watercraft on the waters of this state within one hundred (100) feet of a "diver down" flag that has been displayed to indicate the presence of a person diving or snorkeling.

WATERCRAFT HANDLING AND SAFETY HOME STUDY COURSE

An informative home study course containing information about watercraft handling and safety is available free of charge. To receive course materials, complete and return the enclosed card, or contact the Wyoming Game and Fish Department at (307) 777- 4686.

MOTORBOAT PULLING SKIER TO BE OCCUPIED BY AT LEAST 2 PERSONS; HOURS OF OPERATION; USE OF CARE; EXCEPTIONS

No motorboat that shall have in tow or shall be otherwise assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or similar contrivance, shall be operated or propelled in or upon any waterway, unless such motorboat shall be occupied by at least two (2) persons. Provided, that this subsection shall not apply to motorboats used by representatives of duly constituted water ski schools in the giving of instruction, or to motorboats used in duly authorized water ski tournaments, competitions, expositions or trials therefore, or to any motorboat equipped with a wide angle rear view mirror.

No motorboat shall have in tow or shall otherwise be assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or similar contrivance from the period of one (1) hour after sunset to one (1) hour prior to sunrise. Provided, that this subsection shall not apply to motorboats used in duly authorized water ski tournaments, competitions, expositions or trials therefore.

All motorboats having in tow or otherwise assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or similar contrivance, shall be operated in a careful and prudent manner at a reasonable distance from persons and property so as not to endanger the life or property of any person.

No person shall operate or manipulate any vessel, tow rope or other device by which the direction or location of water skis, aquaplane or similar device may be affected or controlled in such a way as to cause the water skis, aquaplane or similar device, or any person thereon to collide with or strike against any person or object, other than a jumping ramp or in conjunction with skiing over a slalom course.

The person required to be in a motorboat under this section who is not operating the motorboat shall continuously observe the person being towed.

**OPERATION OF WATERCRAFT BY
INTOXICATED OR DRUGGED PERSON
PROHIBITED**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Alcohol concentration" means as defined in Wyoming Statute §31-5-233(a)(i);

(ii) "Controlled substance" includes:

(A) Any drug or substance defined by Wyoming Statute §35-7-1002(a)(iv).

(B) Any glue, aerosol or other toxic vapor which when intentionally inhaled or sniffed results in impairment of an individual's ability to safely operate a watercraft.

(b) No owner of any watercraft or person having charge or control of a watercraft shall authorize or knowingly permit it to be operated by any person who is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance or combination thereof in violation of subsection (c) of this section.

(c) No person shall operate or be in actual physical control of a watercraft if the person:

(i) To a degree which renders him incapable of safely operating a watercraft:

(A) Is under the influence of alcohol;

(B) Is under the influence of a controlled substance; or,

(C) Is under the influence of a combination of the elements named in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph.

(ii) Has an alcohol concentration of ten one-hundredths of one percent (0.10%) or more; or,

(iii) Has an alcohol concentration of ten one-hundredths of one percent (0.10%) or more as measured within three (3) hours of the time of operation or actual physical control.

(d) In any criminal prosecution for a violation of this section relating to operating or being in actual physical control of a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol, the amount of alcohol in the defendant's blood at the time alleged as shown by chemical analysis of the defendant's blood, urine, breath or other bodily substance shall give rise to the following presumptions:

(i) If there was at that time an alcohol concentration of five one-hundredths of one percent (0.05%) or less, it shall be presumed that the defendant was not under the influence of alcohol;

(ii) If there was at that time an alcohol concentration of more than five one-hundredths of one percent (0.05%) and less than ten one-hundredths of one percent (0.10%), that fact shall not give rise to any presumption that the defendant was or was not under the influence of alcohol, but it may be considered with other competent evidence in determining the guilt or innocence of the defendant.

(e) Nothing in subsection (d) of this section shall be construed as limiting the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question of whether or not the defendant was under the influence of alcohol, including tests obtained more than three (3) hours after the alleged violation. The fact that any person charged with a violation of subsection (c) of this section is or has been entitled to use the controlled substance under the laws of this state shall not constitute a defense against any charge under this section. It is an affirmative defense to a violation of paragraph (c)(iii) of this section that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after the time of actual operation or physical control of a watercraft and before the administration of the evidentiary test to cause the defendant's alcohol concentration to exceed ten one-hundredths of one percent (0.10%), but evidence of the consumption may not be admitted unless notice is given to the prosecution pursuant to Rule 16.1 of the Wyoming Rules of Criminal Procedure.

OPERATION OF WATERCRAFT BY A PERSON UNDER DISABILITY PROHIBITED

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any watercraft or any person having such in charge or in control to

authorize or knowingly permit the same to be operated by any person who by reason of physical or mental disability is incapable of operating such watercraft under the prevailing circumstances.

OVERLOADING PROHIBITED

No watercraft shall be loaded with passengers or cargo beyond its safe carrying capacity as stated on the capacity plate affixed to the watercraft by the manufacturer, taking into consideration weather and other existing operating conditions. Capacity plates shall not be removed or altered.

OVERPOWERED WATERCRAFT PROHIBITED; HORSEPOWER RATING PLATES; MUFFLERS REQUIRED

(a) No watercraft shall be equipped with any motor or other propulsion machinery that has a horsepower rating exceeding the maximum stated on the capacity plate approved and issued by the United States Coast Guard and affixed to the watercraft by the manufacturer.

(b) Motorboats shall be equipped, maintained and operated to prevent excessive or unusually loud noise and shall at all times be equipped with a muffler or shall use another method of noise suppression in good working order and in constant operation. No person shall operate or allow the operation of any motorboat equipped with an altered muffler or muffler cutout, bypass or other device designed or installed to continually or intermittently bypass or otherwise reduce or eliminate the effectiveness of any muffler or muffler system.

(c) Subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to motorboats competing in or while on trials of an approved race or regatta nor in areas designated by the Game and Fish Department.

PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

Watercraft shall have:

U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation devices of a suitable size for each person on board the watercraft.



Throwable buoyant cushions and ring buoys. Watercraft sixteen (16) feet and over in length must have one throwable device in addition to a personal flotation device on board for each person.



SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

All watercraft shall carry or be equipped with safety equipment as prescribed by Commission regulation. The Commission may also require every person riding on watercraft operating on specified waters to wear U. S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices. Refer to Chapter 22, Section 5.

Boats for hire required to have life preservers. Any person who shall keep for hire boats not equipped with life preservers for the protection of every occupant, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

RACES, REGATTAS AND TOURNAMENTS

The Commission may regulate the holding of regattas, motorboat or other boat races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibition. It shall adopt regulations concerning the safety of motorboats and other vessels and persons thereon, either observers or participants. Whenever a regatta, motorboat or other boat race, tournament or exhibitions is

proposed to be held, the person in charge, at least thirty (30) days prior thereto, shall file an application with the Department for written permission to hold the regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine event, tournament or exhibition. The application shall set forth the date, time and location of the proposed event and such other information as the Commission may by regulation require.

RIDING ON GUNWALES OR BOW DECKING PROHIBITED; EXCEPTIONS

No person operating a motorboat shall allow any person to ride or sit on either the starboard or port gunwales thereof or on the decking over the bow of the vessel while underway unless such motorboat is provided with adequate guards or railing to prevent passengers from being lost overboard. Nothing in this section shall be construed to mean that passengers or other persons aboard a motorboat cannot occupy the decking over the bow of the boat to moor the watercraft to a mooring buoy or to cast off from such a buoy, or any other necessary purpose.

RIVER FLOATERS

It is illegal to beach a watercraft and enter upon private land without permission from the landowner. It is illegal to "tie off" or anchor a watercraft in waters over private land without permission of the landowner.

WHO CAN ENFORCE WATERCRAFT LAWS

All Department law enforcement officers and any other peace officers of the state or any of its political subdivisions otherwise authorized by law may enforce state law and rules and regulations of the Commission.

Any person operating a watercraft shall, upon observing a visual or hearing an audible signal from a law enforcement officer enforcing state law and rules and Commission regulations, bring the watercraft to an immediate stop. No person, after observing a visual or hearing an audible signal from a law enforcement officer, shall attempt to elude a law enforcement officer by watercraft or any other means. Red or blue rotating or flashing lights shall not be displayed and sirens shall not be used on watercraft except as authorized for watercraft operated or used by law enforcement and emergency watercraft.

For purposes of this section, any Department law enforcement officer and any other peace officer may:

(i) Stop, halt, inspect or board any watercraft;

(ii) If there is probable cause to believe a watercraft and associated trailer are stolen, seize the watercraft and associated trailer. A defaced, altered, removed or destroyed vessel Hull Identification Number (HIN) is prima facie evidence that the watercraft and trailer are stolen.

**STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND
PHRASES (W.S. § 41-13-101, § 41-13-203 and
§ 41-13-204)**

“Careless operation” means any person who operates any watercraft in a careless or heedless manner so as to be indifferent to the person or property of other persons, or at a rate of speed greater than will permit him in the exercise of reasonable care to bring the watercraft to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead.

“Commission” means the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

“Department” means the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

“Motorboat” means any watercraft propelled in any respect by propulsion machinery powered by an energy source other than human effort.

“Operate” means to navigate or otherwise use a watercraft.

“Owner” means a person having the property in or title to a motorboat, excluding a lien holder or a lessee under a lease not intended as security.

“Reckless operation” means any person who shall operate any watercraft in such a manner as to endanger the life or limb, or damage the property of any person.

“Safety equipment” includes personal flotation devices, towing and bailing devices, paddles, fire extinguishers and navigation lights, backfire flame arresters, whistles or other sound producing devices and ventilation systems.

“Waters of this state” means any waters within the jurisdiction of Wyoming.

BASIC WATERCRAFT SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Class A (Less than 16 Ft.), **Class B** (16 Ft. - <26 Ft.),
Class C (26 Ft. - <40 Ft.), **Class D** (40 Ft. and up)
watercraft

Class of Boats				
A	B	C	D	Flotation Devices
ALL BOATS				U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device (PFD) for each person on board (refer to pages 23 and 36 for additional information).
	X	X	X	A minimum of one (1) U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable device must be on board.
			X	Only U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices (PFD) or U.S. Coast Guard approved ring buoys shall be carried.
ALL BOATS				All persons aboard personal watercraft and all persons being towed by a watercraft shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device (PFD).
ALL BOATS				All children 12 years of age or under are required to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) while watercraft is underway (refer to page 37 for additional information).
Lights				
X	X	X		From sunset to sunrise all motorized watercraft and sailboats must display red and green combined lantern in the front of the boat and a white light aft visible 360 degrees when underway.
X	X	X		All watercraft at anchor or adrift between sunset and sunrise must display a white light to show all around the horizon and visible for two miles.
ALL BOATS				Hand-powered watercraft must have lighting ready at hand to avoid collision.
ALL BOATS				From sunset to sunrise no other lights which may be mistaken for navigation lights shall be used.
				Different classes require different lighting (refer to pages 33-34 for further description of lighting requirements).
Fire Extinguishers				
ALL BOATS				All watercraft with inboard engines, compartments where fuel tanks or combustible material may be stored; double bottoms not sealed to hull; closed living spaces; or permanently installed fuel tanks must have the proper fire extinguisher(s) (refer to pages 37-39 for further description of extinguisher requirements).
Sound Producing Devices				
ALL BOATS				All motorized watercraft shall have an efficient sound producing device on board (refer to the table on page 36 for further description of sound device requirements).
Registration				
ALL BOATS				All motorized watercraft must be registered (refer to pages 31-32 for additional information on watercraft registration).
AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) Decal				
ALL BOATS				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All watercraft must have the annual AIS decal and have it displayed properly. Inflatable watercraft less than 10 feet in length are exempt from the decal requirement. AIS decals are available from automated license selling agents or any WGFD Regional Office.

**PART 3
WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION**

**CHAPTER 22
WATERCRAFT REGULATION**

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by authority of W.S. § 31-2-101, W.S. § 41-13-102, W.S. § 41-13-104, W.S. § 41-13-105, W.S. § 41-13-208, W.S. § 41-13-211, W.S. § 41-13-213, W.S. § 41-13-217, W.S. § 41-13-218 and W.S. § 41-13-219.

Section 2. Regulation. This regulation shall become effective January 1, 2014, and shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

Section 3. Definitions. For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Chapter 13, Title 41 and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) "Accompanied by an adult" means no person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall operate or be in physical control of a motorized watercraft on the waters of the State unless an adult is also physically aboard the motorized watercraft and is responsible for the operation of the watercraft.

(b) "Adult" means a person eighteen (18) years of age or older.

(c) "Aft" means a direction toward the back of a watercraft.

(d) "Beam" means the width of a watercraft at its widest part.

(e) "Bow" means the front of a watercraft.

(f) "Certificate of number" means watercraft registration.

(g) "Degrees of a compass" means the gradations in a compass; there are three hundred sixty degrees (360°) within a compass.

(h) "Diver's down flag" means a rectangular shaped flag either blue and white in color (alpha flag) or red in color with a white diagonal stripe (diving flag), not less than twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches and displayed no less than three (3) feet above the surface of the water.

(i) "Duplicate number or duplicate certificate" means a certificate of number issued by the Department to replace an original certificate of number.

(j) "Enclosed cabin" means a permanent structure with hardened sides, which is intended for human occupation.

(k) "Gunwale" means the upper edge of the side of a watercraft.

(l) "HIN" means a Hull Identification Number that meets the specifications listed in Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(m) "Kill switch" means a device for shutting off the engine of a personal watercraft in the event the operator falls off the personal watercraft while it is underway.

(n) "Length of a watercraft" means the length of the hull of a watercraft measured in a straight line from the stem to the stern excluding the deck, bowsprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets and similar fittings or attachments.

(o) "Motorized watercraft" means any watercraft powered by an internal combustion or electric engine.

(p) "Motorized watercraft dealer" means a person who is engaged in the business of manufacture or sale of motorboats in Wyoming and who is required to be licensed with the Wyoming Department of Revenue to collect and remit sales tax or a person whose motorboat sales business is outside Wyoming, but who demonstrates motorboats in Wyoming.

(q) "No wake" means the speed of a watercraft when underway that does not cause water action that disturbs another watercraft at rest, a dock, or swimmers, and, in no case shall the speed of the watercraft when underway be in excess of five (5) miles per hour.

(r) "Operator" means the person in physical control or in charge of a watercraft while it is in use. When the person in physical control of a watercraft is under the age of sixteen (16) years, the accompanying adult may be considered the operator.

(s) "Personal watercraft" means any inboard motorized watercraft less than sixteen (16) feet in length which has a water-jet pump as its primary source of motor propulsion and that is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the watercraft, rather than the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the watercraft.

(t) "Port" means the left side of a watercraft as one faces forward and is denoted by a red light.

(u) "Proof of ownership for temporary operation" means a notarized bill of sale stating the name of the previous owner of the motorized watercraft, the name of the purchaser of the watercraft, description of the watercraft with correct

HIN or a copy of a properly transferred title, a bill of sale with correct HIN from a motorized watercraft dealer, or a copy of a notarized affidavit by the builder of a homemade watercraft that indicates a description of the watercraft and the date construction was completed.

(v) "Rental boat owner" means a person who rents watercraft to the public for a fee.

(w) "Safe carrying capacity" means the capacity shall not exceed the number of persons or the weight limit, whichever is reached first, as stated on the capacity plate affixed to the watercraft.

(x) "Starboard" means the right side of a watercraft as one faces forward and is denoted by a green light.

(y) "Stem" means the line where the port and starboard hulls join together at the bow.

(z) "Stern" means the transom or rear end of a watercraft.

(aa) "Temporary operation" means the operation of a motorized watercraft without a certificate of number during the thirty (30) consecutive days immediately following the date of purchase.

(bb) "Throwable device" means a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type 4 personal flotation device.

(cc) "Underway" means the watercraft is being propelled by mechanized power, wind or human effort.

(dd) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water.

(ee) "Wake" means the water action caused by a watercraft that is underway that disturbs another watercraft at rest, a dock, or swimmers, and the speed of the watercraft exceeds five (5) miles per hour.

(ff) "Water sport toy" means a sailboard, float tube, kite board or any aid to swimming or fishing that is not defined as a watercraft.

(gg) "Watercraft" means any contrivance used or designed primarily for navigation on the water that is designed to be propelled by paddles, oars, sails or motors, except devices defined as water sport toys. Amphibious vehicles designed for travel over land and water with propeller or jet propulsion systems shall be considered watercraft for the purpose of this regulation.

(hh) "Wearable personal flotation device" means a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type 1, Type 2 or Type 3 personal flotation device.

Section 4. Motorized Watercraft Registration and Numbers.

(a) All numbers assigned to motorized watercraft in the State shall consist of three (3) parts. The first part, the prefix, shall consist of the letters "WY" signifying the State of registration; the second part shall consist of not more than four (4) Arabic numerals; the third part, the suffix, shall consist of not more than two (2) capital letters, but "I", "O" and "Q" shall not be used because of their similarity to Arabic numerals. The first capital letter in the third part, the suffix, shall indicate the Class of motorboat as A, B, C, or D. Numbers assigned to motorized watercraft dealers shall have the letters "DL" as the suffix. Numbers assigned to rental watercraft shall have the letters "AL," "BL" or "CL" as the suffix.

(b) All numbers shall be displayed on each side of the bow of the motorized watercraft in such a manner that the numbers shall be clearly readable when the motorized watercraft is underway.

(i) Numbers shall be affixed on each side of the exterior bow of the motorized watercraft to read from left to right. The number shall be:

(A) In plain, block vertical, not slanted, letters and numerals of the same proportion;

(B) A minimum of three (3) inches high excluding shading and bordering; and,

(C) A color that shall contrast with the color of the background, i.e., dark numbers on a light background or light numbers on a dark background.

(ii) A hyphen or a space, equal in width to the letter "W" in the prefix, shall separate the three (3) parts of the number. For example: "WY-1234-A" or "WY 1234 A".

(iii) All numbers assigned to motorized watercraft, except those assigned to motorized watercraft dealers, shall be painted on or securely attached to the bow of the motorized watercraft. Motorized watercraft dealers may affix the number for motorized watercraft that are for sale to a removable board(s) to permit transfer of the assigned number upon sale. Display of such number shall be in accordance with this section.

(iv) A motorized watercraft dealer is eligible to receive more than one (1) registration certificate and one (1) motorized watercraft registration

number. A motorized watercraft dealer registration number is not assigned to a specific motorized watercraft. Motorized watercraft dealer registration numbers shall not be transferred to another motorized watercraft dealer or motorized watercraft owner.

(c) Upon payment of the motorized watercraft registration fee, each applicant for a motorized watercraft certificate of number shall be issued a registration certificate and two (2) decals upon which shall appear a designation of the year(s) for which the registration fee was paid and the abbreviation WY. One (1) decal shall be displayed on each side of the motorized watercraft to which the number is assigned aft and directly in line with the assigned number of the motorized watercraft. No other type decal shall be displayed on the front half of the hull. Only the decal that is currently valid shall be displayed.

(d) Transfer of ownership for registration or first time registration of a motorized watercraft shall require a copy or original certificate of title issued in the name of the applicant(s) with the correct HIN.

(i) A watercraft registration shall only be issued in the name of the owner as it appears on the certificate of title.

(e) Persons making application for a watercraft dealer's registration shall provide the Department with a properly completed Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement – Certificate of Exemption form. The form, which can be obtained from the Department of Revenue, indicates the watercraft is being purchased for resale and the purchase is exempt from sales/use tax. The dealer's sales tax license number shall appear on the form.

(f) Duplicate Certificate of Number.

(i) The Department shall not charge a fee for issuance of a duplicate certificate of number when the loss or destruction of the certificate was the fault of the Department. The Department shall charge a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) for issuance of a duplicate certificate of number when the loss or destruction of the original certificate of number was not the fault of the Department.

Section 5. Watercraft Safety Equipment Requirements. Except as provided in this section, it shall be the responsibility of the operator of the watercraft to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft during operation. If the owner of the watercraft is aboard the watercraft during operation, it shall be the responsibility of the owner and not the operator to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft during operation. In the case of rental watercraft, it shall be the responsibility of the rental boat owner to ensure that all required safety

equipment is aboard the watercraft at the time the watercraft is rented.

(a) Every watercraft when underway on the waters of the State from sunset to sunrise shall carry and exhibit lights in accordance with the provisions of this section. From sunset to sunrise, no other light that may be mistaken for those listed in this section shall be used.

(i) Every motorized watercraft of classes A and B shall carry the following lights:

(A) A bright white light aft to be visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) all around the horizon; and,

(B) A combined lantern in the front of the motorized watercraft and lower than the white light aft, showing green to starboard and red to port, so fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on their respective sides.

(ii) Every motorized watercraft of classes C and D shall carry the following lights:

(A) A bright white light in the front of the motorized watercraft as near the bow at the center axis as practicable, so constructed as to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of two hundred twenty-five degrees (225°), and fixed as to show the light one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees (112.5°) on each side of the motorized watercraft from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on either side;

(B) A bright white light aft to show three hundred sixty degrees (360°) all around the horizon and higher than the white light forward; and,

(C) On the starboard side, a green light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths (112.5°) degrees, and fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on the starboard side. On the port side, a red light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees (112.5°), and fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on the port side. Each light shall be fitted with inboard screens of sufficient height set to prevent light from being seen across the bow.

(iii) Every white light referred to in this section shall be visible at a distance of at least two (2) miles and every colored light shall be visible at a distance of one (1) mile.

(iv) Sailboats, when propelled by sail alone, shall exhibit the following lights: On the starboard side, a green light and on the port side a red light to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam. Sailboats shall also carry at the stern a white light to show the light sixty-seven and five tenths degrees (67.5°) from aft on each side of the watercraft. In a small sailboat, if it is not possible on account of bad weather or other sufficient causes for the light to be fixed, sailboats shall carry ready at hand a lantern or flashlight to show a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision. Sailboats less than forty (40) feet in length may carry a combined light in lieu of separate side lights.

(v) All hand propelled watercraft operated between sunset and sunrise shall have ready at hand a lantern or flashlight to show a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision.

(vi) All watercraft at anchor or adrift between sunset and sunrise, unless anchored at a designated site such as a marina, shoreline, etc., shall display in the front of the watercraft or where it can best be seen a white light to show all around the horizon and visible for two (2) miles.

(b) Every gasoline engine installed in a motorized watercraft after April 25, 1940, except outboard motors, shall be equipped with an efficient means of backfire flame control. Installations made before November 19, 1952, need not meet the detailed requirements of this subsection and may be continued in use as long as they are in good and serviceable condition. The following are acceptable means of backfire flame control for gasoline engines:

(i) A backfire flame arrester approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. The flame arrester shall be suitably secured to the air intake with flame tight connections;

(ii) An engine air and fuel intake system that provides adequate protection from propagation of backfire flame to the atmosphere equivalent to that provided by an approved flame arrester. A gasoline engine that has such an air and fuel intake system and that is to be operated without a U.S. Coast Guard approved flame arrester shall be labeled to meet requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard; and,

(iii) Any attachment to the carburetor or location of the engine air intake by means of which flames caused by engine backfire shall be dispersed to the atmosphere outside the motorized watercraft in such a way that the flames shall not endanger the motorized watercraft, persons on board, nearby watercraft or structures. All attachments shall be of metal with flame tight connections and firmly secured to withstand vibration, shock and engine backfire. Such installations do not require formal U.S. Coast Guard approval, but shall be accepted by law enforcement officers on the basis of this subsection.

(c) All motorized watercraft, except open boats, shall have at least two (2) ventilator ducts fitted with cowls or their equivalent for the efficient removal of explosive or flammable gases from the bilges of every engine and fuel tank compartment. There shall be at least one (1) exhaust duct installed so as to extend from the open atmosphere to the lower portion of the bilges and at least one (1) intake duct installed so as to extend to a point at least midway to the bilge or at least below the level of the carburetor air intake. The cowls shall be located and trimmed for maximum effectiveness to prevent displaced fumes from being recirculated. As used in this subsection, the term "open boat" means those motorized watercraft that have all engine and fuel tank compartments and other spaces in which explosive or flammable gases and vapors could form open to the atmosphere so as to prevent the entrapment of such gases and vapors within the motorized watercraft.

(d) Motorized watercraft shall be provided with an efficient sound producing device as set forth in this subsection:

Class of Motorized Watercraft	Type of Device
A & B	Mouth, hand or power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one-half (1/2) mile.
C	Hand or power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one (1) mile.
D	Power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for a distance of at least one (1) mile.

(e) All watercraft shall carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size for each person on board. All U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices shall be readily accessible, in good serviceable condition and shall not be waterlogged, torn, or have straps broken or missing.

(i) Watercraft sixteen (16) feet and over in length shall have a minimum of one (1) U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable device (unless otherwise provided by this regulation), ring buoy or buoyant cushion on board the watercraft, in addition to a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size for each person on board. Watercraft sixteen (16) feet and over in length being utilized in Class II and above whitewater are exempt from having a minimum of one (1) U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable device if the watercraft has a safety throw rope. Class II whitewater means novice straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels that are evident without scouting; occasional maneuvering may be required, but rocks and medium sized waves are easily missed by trained paddlers; swimmers are seldom injured and group assistance, while helpful, is seldom needed; rapids that are at the upper end of this difficulty range are designated "class II."

(ii) Only U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices or U.S. Coast Guard approved ring buoys shall be carried on watercraft forty (40) feet and over in length.

(iii) All persons aboard personal watercraft and all persons being towed by a watercraft shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size while engaged in such activity. All persons utilizing water sport toys are exempt from the requirement of carrying a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device unless the water sport toy is being towed by a watercraft.

(iv) Requirement For Life Jacket Wear By Children.

(A) No person shall operate a watercraft underway with any child aboard twelve (12) years old or under unless each child is either wearing a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) or is riding in an enclosed cabin.

(f) Operators of motorized watercraft shall display a fluorescent orange flag, at least twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches in size, above the motorized watercraft anytime persons towed on water-skis, water sport toys, or other contrivances are down in the water to warn other watercraft operators of the situation. The operator of the motorized watercraft shall ensure the flag is displayed in such a manner that it is visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) around the motorized watercraft and the person in the water.

(g) Fire extinguishers

(i) Fire extinguishers shall be carried in all watercraft that have one or more of the following conditions that make the watercraft of closed construction:

(A) Inboard engines;

(B) Closed compartments under seats wherein portable fuel tanks may be stored;

(C) Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation materials;

(D) Closed living spaces;

(E) Closed stowage compartments in that combustible material are stored; or,

(F) Permanently installed fuel tanks.

(ii) Fire extinguishers shall be U.S. Coast Guard or Underwriters Laboratory (U.L.) approved. Fire extinguishers are classified by letter and Roman numeral according to the type of fire they shall be expected to extinguish and the size of the extinguisher. The "letter" indicates the type of fire:

(A) "A" shall be for fires of ordinary combustible materials;

(B) "B" shall be for gasoline, oil and grease fires; and,

(C) "C" shall be for electrical fires.

(iii) Fire extinguishers approved for watercraft shall be hand-portable of either B-I or B-II classification.

CLASSIFICATION (type-size)	FOAM (gallons)	CARBON DIOXIDE (pounds)	DRY CHEMICAL (pounds)	HALON (pounds)
B-I	1 1/4	4	2	2 1/2
B-II	2 1/2	15	10	--

(iv) Dry chemical fire extinguishers utilized on watercraft which do not exhibit gauges or devices indicating the amount of pressure in the extinguisher shall be weighed and display a tag that indicates the extinguisher has been weighed within the immediately preceding twelve (12) months. If the gross weight of a carbon dioxide (CO₂) fire extinguisher is reduced by more than ten percent (10%) of the net weight, the extinguisher does not meet the requirements of this section and shall be recharged.

(v) Fire extinguishers shall be readily accessible aboard the watercraft and in such condition as to be ready for immediate and effective use.

(vi) Requirements for fire extinguishers by length of watercraft are as follows:

(A) Watercraft less than twenty-six (26) feet in length. When no fixed fire extinguishing system is installed in machinery space(s), at least one (1) B-I type approved hand portable fire extinguisher is required. This requirement shall not apply to outboard watercraft less than twenty-six (26) feet in length if the construction of such watercraft shall not permit the

entrapment of explosives or flammable gases or vapors. When an approved fixed fire extinguisher system is installed in machinery space(s), one (1) less B-I type extinguisher is required;

(B) Watercraft twenty-six (26) feet to less than forty (40) feet in length. At least two (2) B-I type approved portable fire extinguishers are required or at least one (1) B-II type approved portable fire extinguisher is required. When an approved fixed system is installed, one (1) B-I type is required; and,

(C) Watercraft forty (40) feet to less than sixty-five (65) feet in length. At least three (3) B-I type approved portable fire extinguishers are required or at least one (1) B-I type plus one (1) B-II type approved portable fire extinguisher are required. When an approved fixed system is installed, two (2) B-I types are required.

Section 6. Boat Races, Regattas and Water Ski Tournaments. No regattas, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions, or trials thereof, shall be held without prior written authorization from the Department.

(a) Department authorization shall not be granted for any regattas, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions or trials thereof, without first assuring that:

(i) When the Department authorizes an event, water markers, buoys or regulatory signs shall be placed during the hours of the event by the person granted authority for the event to warn other watercraft operators of a controlled area prohibited from entering by anyone other than contestants of the event. The markers, buoys or regulatory signs shall conform with those adopted for use in the State; and,

(ii) The person granted authority for the regatta, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments, exhibitions or trials shall satisfy the Department that adequate safeguards and controls exist to protect human life, limb and property.

Section 7. Waterway Marking System.

(a) The Department may restrict and guide watercraft use on waters by placement of such buoys, markers or regulatory signs as it deems necessary. All users of watercraft are required to obey the buoys, markers or regulatory signs. The buoys, markers or regulatory signs signify restricted areas, danger areas and information pertaining to watercraft operation in specific areas. Standard markers used are as follows:

(i) A diamond shape of international orange with white center shall indicate danger. The nature of the danger may be indicated by words or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the diamond shape, or above or below it on white background;

(ii) A diamond shape of international orange with a cross of international orange against a white center without qualifying explanation shall indicate a zone from which all watercraft are excluded;

(iii) A circle of international orange with white center shall indicate a control or restriction. The nature of the control or restriction shall be indicated by words, numerals or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the circle. Additional explanations may be given above or below in black letters;

(iv) A rectangular shape of international orange with white center shall indicate information, other than a danger, control or restriction that may contribute to health, safety or well being. The message shall be presented within the rectangle in black letters;

(v) Letters or numerals used with regulatory markers shall be black in block characters of good proportion and spaced in a manner that shall provide maximum legibility and visibility; and,

(vi) No buoys, markers or regulatory signs shall be placed upon the waters of the State without prior approval of the Department, except that divers or persons snorkeling shall place a diver's down flag(s) upon the water in the immediate area of their activity.

(A) Two (2) different flags are used to indicate the presence of a person engaged in diving in the immediate area. The official flag, Alpha, which is blue and white is internationally recognized for all diving operations. The second flag is the red flag with a white diagonal stripe. No person shall operate or permit the operation of any motorized watercraft on the waters of this State within one hundred (100) feet of a "diver down" flag(s) that has been displayed to indicate the presence of a person diving or snorkeling. The diver's down flag(s) shall be displayed only when diving or snorkeling is in progress, and shall be displayed so as not to impede normal watercraft traffic. "Diver down" flag(s) shall not be placed in areas already occupied by other watercraft.

(b) No person shall alter, damage, deface, destroy, move, remove, tie off to or otherwise modify any Department approved buoy, marker or regulatory sign.

Section 8. Personal Watercraft.

(a) No person operating a personal watercraft shall cross or jump the wake of another watercraft within one hundred (100) feet of the watercraft creating the wake.

(b) No person shall operate a personal watercraft unless the watercraft is equipped with a "kill switch" installed by the manufacturer. When a personal watercraft is underway, the kill switch shall be attached via a lanyard to the operator of the personal watercraft in such a manner that in the event the operator is ejected from the personal watercraft the engine shall stop.

(c) Personal watercraft are prohibited on certain waters. (Refer to Section 9(b) of this regulation.)

Section 9. Waters on Which the Operation of Watercraft is Restricted or Prohibited.

(a) No person shall operate a motorized watercraft at a speed that causes a wake within one hundred (100) feet of a drifting, trolling or anchored watercraft or person(s) in the water.

(b) The use of personal watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year:

All waters in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County;

The Snake River from Grand Teton National Park boundary in Teton County to Sheep Gulch boat ramp in Lincoln County;

Green River Lakes in Sublette County;

New Fork Lakes in Sublette County; and,

Soda Lake on Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Sublette County.

(c) The use of motorized watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

All waters in Grand Teton National Park, excluding Jackson and Jenny lakes, in Teton County;

Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County;

North Platte River upstream from the Saratoga Inn bridge in the town of Saratoga to the Colorado state line in Carbon County (the owners or agricultural lessees of property immediately adjacent to the North Platte River, or their agents, may utilize motorized watercraft to carry out agricultural practices.);

South Worland Pond (also known as Golf Course Pond) in Washakie County;

Snake River from Grand Teton National Park boundary in Teton County to Sheep Gulch boat ramp in Lincoln County, except motorized watercraft, other than personal watercraft, powered by a single motor not to exceed one hundred fifteen (115) horsepower are allowed from South Park Bridge in Teton County (U.S. Highway 26/89/191) to West Table boat ramp in Lincoln County from the day after Labor Day through March 31; and,

West Ten Sleep Lake in Big Horn County.

(d) The use of internal combustion engines in motorized watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

A&M Reservoir in Sweetwater County;

Absaraka Lake in Laramie County;

Beck Lake Recreation Area including Beck Lake, New Cody Reservoir and Markham Reservoir in Park County;

Black Hills Power and Light Osage Pond in Weston County;

Bryan Stock Trail Pond in Natrona County;

Burlington Reservoir in Natrona County;

Cook Lake in Crook County;

Dollar Lake in Sublette County;

Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park including all ponds within the Park in Natrona County;

Festo Lake in Platte County;

Fiddlers Lake in Fremont County;

Fish Lake in Fremont County;

Gillette Fishing Lake in Campbell County;

Johnson Creek Reservoir in Albany County;

Kleenburn Ponds in Sheridan County;

Lake Alice in Lincoln County;

Leazenby Lake in Albany County;

Lake of the Woods in Fremont County;

Little Soda Lake in Sublette County;

Lower North Crow Reservoir (North Crow Diversion Reservoir) in Laramie County;

Lucky Pond (Chittim Reservoir) in Fremont County;

Medicine Bow National Forest including all lakes within the boundaries of Medicine Bow National Forest, except Sand Lake, Turpin Reservoir, Lake Owen, Rob Roy Reservoir and Hog Park Reservoir, in Carbon and Albany counties;

Middle Piney Lake in Sublette County;

Murphy Lake in Lincoln County;

Naughton Plant Pond in Lincoln County;

North Piney Lake in Sublette County;

Pelham Lake in Fremont County;

Rawlins City Reservoir in Carbon County;

Sand Mesa Reservoirs No. 1 and 2 in Fremont County;

Sibley Lake in Sheridan County;

Soda Lake, on Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area, in Sublette County shall be closed from May 10 through May 31 to the use of internal combustion motorized watercraft;

South Springer Reservoir in Goshen County;

Swamp Lake in Park County;

Tie Hack Reservoir in Johnson County;

Upper and Lower Jade Lakes in Fremont County;

Upper North Crow Reservoir in Laramie and Albany counties;

Western Nuclear Pond in Fremont County; and, Wind River Lake in Fremont County.

(e) The use of any type watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt from this subsection.

Grayrocks Reservoir to include only that area between the regulatory buoys and the spillway in Platte County;

Hawk Springs Reservoir in Goshen County from December 1 – February 15;

Jim Bridger Pond to include only that area inside the pumphouse booms in Sweetwater County;

North Platte River to include that area between the Dave Johnston Power Plant Public Access Area and the Dave Johnston Power Plant in Converse County;

North Platte River to include only that area between Glendo Dam and Glendo Powerplant in Platte County;

Ranchester City Reservoir in Sheridan County; and,

Wheatland Reservoir No. 3 Canal from the headgate in Reservoir No. 2 to the mouth in Reservoir No. 3 in Albany County.

(f) The use of motorized watercraft powered by a motor in excess of fifteen (15) horsepower is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt from this subsection.

Crystal Reservoir in Laramie County;
Deaver Reservoir in Park County;
Harrington Reservoir in Big Horn County;
Healy Reservoir in Johnson County;
Jim Bridger Pond in Sweetwater County;
Lily Lake in Park County;
Muddy Guard Reservoirs in Johnson County;
Newton Lakes Recreational Area including East and West Newton Lakes in Park County;
Packers Lake in Goshen County;
Park Reservoir in Johnson and Sheridan counties;
Renner Reservoir in Washakie County;
Sloans Lake in Laramie County; and
Turpin Reservoir in Carbon County.


(g) The use of motorized watercraft powered by a motor in excess of ten (10) horsepower is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement, Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft and other watercraft authorized by Grand Teton National Park are exempt from this subsection.

Jenny Lake in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County.

Section 10. Enforcement.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission hereby authorizes any peace officer of the State or any of its political subdivisions to enforce the provisions of Title 41 and this regulation.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

By: 
Mike Healy, President

Dated: September 23, 2013

PART 4: OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ILLEGAL FISH TRANSPORT



What is the problem?

- The future of **YOUR** fishing is at stake when people move live fish from one body of water to another.
- Illegal introduction of fish into Wyoming's waters **DOES** jeopardize your fisheries.
- Introduction of **ANY** fish can severely affect a sport fishery. This includes nongame fish such as carp, shiners, suckers and minnows and game fish like walleye, rainbow trout and yellow perch.



Know before you go: **Carbon Monoxide (CO)**

- Can harm and even kill you in open air.
- Symptoms are similar to seasickness or alcohol intoxication.
- Can affect you whether you're underway, moored or anchored.
- Can make you sick in seconds. In high concentrations, a few breaths can be fatal.
- Emissions from one boat engine can be equivalent to the emissions of 188 cars.

For more information on how to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, contact the U.S. Coast Guard at 1-800-368-5647 or visit www.uscgboating.org.

Wyoming experienced seven (7) carbon monoxide related injuries in a single boating season.

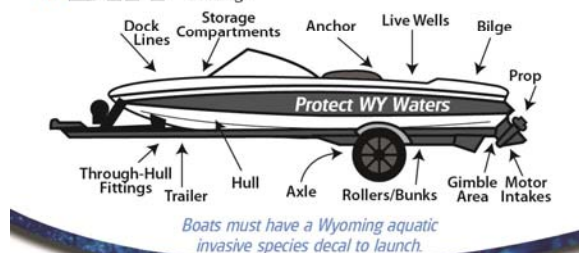
DON'T MOVE A MUSSEL

*You can stop the spread
of invasive species.
Before you launch or move to
another water, follow these
simple steps:*

✓ **DRAIN** Drain all water from your boat, including the ballast, bilge, livewell, and motor. Leave wet compartments open to dry. Travel with the bilge plug out.

✓ **CLEAN** Clean all plants, mud, and debris from your boat and gear.

✓ **DRY** Dry your boat and gear for 5 days in the summer, 18 days in spring or fall, or 3 days of freezing.



Contact the Wyoming Game and Fish Department if you see any invasive species on your equipment or in Wyoming waters.



**Watercraft transported into Wyoming
MUST be inspected before launching.**

Call 1-877-WGFD-AIS (877-943-3247) for inspection information.



Conserving Wildlife
Serving People

wgfd.wyo.gov/AIS

PHOTO CREDITS: Jeff Ounderson, Minnesota Sea Grant; Michigan Sea Grant Archives; Utah Dept. of Natural Resources; USGS, 100th Meridian Initiative; Image Copyright YauLev, 2013 Used under license from Shutterstock.com, Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation.

Contact Information	In State Toll-Free #	Out-of-State Phone #
Cheyenne Headquarters	1-800-842-1934	1-307-777-4600
Casper Regional Office	1-800-233-8544	1-307-473-3400
Cody Regional Office	1-800-654-1178	1-307-527-7125
Green River Regional Office	1-800-843-8096	1-307-875-3223
Jackson Regional Office	1-800-423-4113	1-307-733-2321
Lander Regional Office	1-800-654-7862	1-307-332-2688
Laramie Regional Office	1-800-843-2352	1-307-745-4046
Pinedale Regional Office	1-800-452-9107	1-307-367-4353
Sheridan Regional Office	1-800-331-9834	1-307-672-7418
For more information and materials call: 1-307-777-4600 or visit the Department website.		

**GENERAL WATERCRAFT SAFETY
INFORMATION**

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department receives federal financial assistance in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration. Under Title VI of 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to:

Department of Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Human Resources
4401 North Fairfax Drive
Mail stop: 2000
Arlington, Virginia 22203

The U. S. Coast Guard
2100 2nd Street SW STOP 7000
Washington DC 20593-7000

Federal regulations apply on waters where there is concurrent state and federal jurisdiction. Flaming Gorge and Yellowtail National Recreational Areas are examples of such areas in Wyoming. For more information regarding laws and regulations, contact the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Watercraft Officer, 3030 Energy Lane, Casper, WY 82604, (307) 473-3400.

**Watercraft violations can be reported
via the Stop Poaching hotline, web address
and text keyword and number.**

**Report All
Wildlife Violations!**

Text keyword
WGFD
and message to
TIP411
(847-411)



Help us Stand Watch
1-877-WGFD-TIP
(1-877-943-3847)

Out-of-State (1-307-777-4330)

Submit Tip Online: <http://wgfd.wyo.gov>

BOAT SAFE! BOAT SOBER!



**This Wyoming accident was caused
by the actions of boat operators
under the influence of alcohol and drugs.**

FACTS ABOUT BOATING AND ALCOHOL:

- A boat operator is likely to become impaired more quickly than an automobile driver, drink for drink.
- The penalties for Boating Under the Influence (BUI), whether alcohol or drugs, can include large fines, revocations of operator privileges and serious jail terms.
- The use of alcohol is involved in about a third of all recreational boating fatalities.
- Intoxicated passengers are at risk of injury and falling overboard.
- Alcohol decreases peripheral vision, reduces depth perception, decreases night vision and causes difficulty in distinguishing colors (particularly red and green).
- Alcohol creates a physical sensation of warmth which may prevent a person in cold water from getting out before hypothermia sets in.

**BOATING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (BUI)
IS JUST AS DEADLY AS
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (DUI)!**